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April 23, 2001 LB 536, 620

original state that it was. But they bought that through bankruptcy, went in there and tested the systems and so on and it was defective. They rebuilt basically the whole plant, whether it was fire suppression equipment or actual material to refine the corn, basically rebuilt it. And I've had people, owners out there tell me had they known what they were getting into, they'd have simply built a new plant. So I don't know exactly this capital investment sheet that was revised, sent out by Senator Dierks here, lists Delta-T as \$18 million capital investment. I assume that's in the ballpark. They didn't pay for that in the bankruptcy court that much, but they've certainly probably spent more than that I think in reconfiguring and rebuilding that plant to get it up to standard and operating. I don't know that they would qualify under LB 620 incentives. They're up and going, producing. And I do think that they probably qualify for LB 775 funds and some other incentives there, but I...it is up and going, running. They've had lots of problems with it getting there, and I'd hate to see it close down. Also along those lines, we're talking about price of gasoline. There hasn't been a new refinery built in the United States since approximately 1976. And the two closest refineries to us, one of them we did have a Nebraska refinery for a long time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BAKER: It was out at Scottsbluff in Senator Smith's district. It was owned by Farmland there in Scottsbluff and it was closed. There seems to be some discussion here whether Senator Erdman was even born when it was closed, but back in the early eighties, maybe late seventies. The other refinery that was close to us was Phillipsburg, Kansas. It was an NCRA refinery, I believe, closed, I don't know, 15 or so years ago. So that points in the direction of refinery capacity has actually been reduced as far as the number of refineries, and the ones that are left are operating at capacity. So with that, I'll return any time I have left to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Robak, on the motion to bracket LB 536.